

REMARKS

The Office Action of February 24, 2003 was received and carefully reviewed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the currently pending rejections are requested for the reasons advanced in detail below.

Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for a Two Month Extension of Time* which extends the shortened statutory period of response to July 24, 2003. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

Claims 1-14, 17-27 and 29-54 were pending prior to the instant amendment. By this amendment, claims 1-5, 30-46 and 51-54 are canceled herein. Consequently, claims 6-14, 17-27, 29 and 47-50 are currently pending in the instant application.

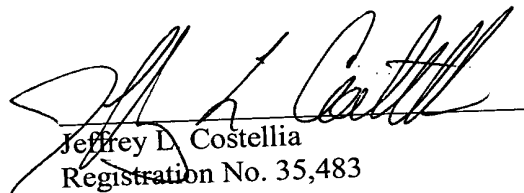
Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parks (4,571,225) in view of Johary et al. (5,196,839); and claims 30-46 and 51-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parks in view of Runaldue et al. (5,325,338).

As noted above, applicant has canceled rejected claims 1-5, 30-46 and 51-54 rendering the above U.S.C. 103(a) rejections moot.

With respect to the Office Action, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 6-14, 17-27, 29 and 47-50.

In view of the fact that applicant has canceled rejected claims 1-5, 30-46 and 51-54, and that claims 6-14, 17-27, 29 and 47-50 were considered to be allowable, it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If a conference would expedite prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,


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